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OCI No. 0485/66

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
6 January 1966

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The British Naval Base at Singapore

1. The Royal Naval Base at Singapore is the principal British naval base in the Far East and serves as Headquarters of the Far East Fleet. Strategically situated, it commands the shortest sea route between Europe, Africa, and the China Sea. Its primary mission is maintenance, repair, and supply of British naval vessels assigned to the Far East, but training for the Royal Malaysian Navy is also carried out. Except for a small petroleum-transfer facility, there are no commercial activities at the port.

2. The base has a large, deep, well-sheltered harbor with a large number of anchorage berths for all classes of vessels. Total wharf length is 8,950 feet with dredged depths alongside up to 39 feet. The wharves provide berths for about 15 ocean-going ships and several smaller vessels. The estimated military port capacity is 15,500 long tons per day.

3. Base components include ordnance, supply, communications, medical, training, and shipyard facilities. The shipyard component is large and includes a graving dock with a length on the floor of 1,047 feet (capable of taking a Midway-class aircraft carrier, but not one of the Forrestal class) and five floating drydocks, the largest with a lifting capacity of 15,500 long tons.

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MEMORANDUM FOR: **DCI**
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The attached memorandum was requested by
MCO

the DCI.

6 January 1966
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED. (47)